

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED **MAY 29 1979**
DATE ENTERED **JUL 10 1979**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Neighborhood House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3030 SW Second Avenue

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Portland

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Oregon

CODE

41

COUNTY

Multnomah

CODE

051

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <i>Recreati</i>

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Portland Section of the National Council of Jewish Women

STREET & NUMBER

3030 SW Second Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon 97201

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1021 SW Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

City of Portland Historical Landmarks Commission's
Inventory of Historical Landmarks and Districts

DATE

March 1977

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Portland Bureau of Planning

CITY, TOWN

424 SW Main St., Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

INTRODUCTION

Neighborhood House was constructed by the Portland Section of the National Council of Jewish Women in 1910 to meet the social needs of a rapid influx of European immigrants to Portland. The Georgian Revival styled structure was designed by Albert E. Doyle, of Doyle and Patterson, Architects, as a settlement house with inherent flexibility to respond to the changing needs of the community. Although overall in poor condition, the structure is still used as a community center for SW Portland and is believed to be the oldest continually used structure of its kind in the Northwest.

The structure is located at 3030 SW Second Avenue on Lots 5-8, Block 77, Caruthers Addition in Portland and is the architectural and social focus of the Lair Hill Conservation District, a locally designed district of historic and architectural significance. Surrounding the structure are primarily one to three-story wooden, Victorian residential structures. Immediately to the west of the structure is the City-owned Lair Hill Park. Lair Hill, the surrounding low to middle income neighborhood, is currently undergoing transition as dilapidated structures are being rehabilitated.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Neighborhood House is a brick, two-story structure with raised basement. Located on the north side of the primary structure are two brick and concrete additions forming an L-shape and extended one-story. A surface parking lot covers the northwest corner of the site.

STRUCTURE

The basic structure of Neighborhood House is composed of a concrete foundation, exterior masonry bearing walls and wood-framed floor and roof. In the basement the perimeter foundation walls are of poured concrete 21" thick and 5'3" above the concrete basement floor.

Within the masonry perimeter walls, the structure is divided into two parallel segments. The western, or educational, segment is divided into nine irregular bays spaced (north to south) 10'6", 8'6", 10'4", 10'4", 9'0", and 11'2". Supporting the first floor in this portion are eight six-foot gas pipe columns and two 4x6" timber posts. The eastern, or recreational, segment is divided into seven bays spaced (north to south) 13'0", 12'0", 12'0", 12'0", 12'0", 12'0", 13'4". Supporting the gymnasium floor are ten 4" gas pipe columns and a 9' masonry wall located 25' from the north wall.

The floor structure consists of wood beams running north/south and wood joists running east/west. Joists are hung off beams and sizes vary on successive floors--12x16" on the first floor, 8x14" on the second, and 10x14" for the roof. Floor joists vary also--2x14" on the first and 2x16" on the second, all spaced 12" on center--and 8x14" beams with 2x10" joists supporting the gymnasium floor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED	MAY 29 1979
DATE ENTERED	JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 1 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The roof structure is also divided into two segments. In the educational portion the roof structure is composed of composite wood trusses, comprised primarily of 2" x 12" and 2" x 8" joists, 16" on center. Roof structure for the gymnasium is composed of six composite wood trusses, usually 8" x 10" joists with intermediate 4" x 6", 6" x 8", and 1½" steel rods. Four trusses are of 6" x 8" and 6" x 8" joists with intermediate 6" x 6" and 3" x 6" and 1½" steel rods. Roof decking over both portions are 1" x 6" fir.

Floor heights are 9'8" from basement to first floor, 12'8" from first to second floor, and 11'8" from second floor to the roof. The gymnasium height is 24'.

EXTERIOR FINISH

With the exception of two L-shaped additions to the north and a steel-framed fire escape on the south side, the original exterior finish is intact and is in fair to poor condition.

The Georgian Revival styled structure draws much of its inspiration from the Neo-Colonial mode, with symmetrical facades and a minimum of minor projections. Minimal decoration on street frontages is composed of a continuous cornice and portico executed in cream colored, matt glazed terra cotta. Brick work is comprised of hard burned, common red brick in a common bond with headers every seventh course. Each facade is unique in articulation.

The west, or front, facade is symmetrical flanking the centered main entry. At ground level, the entry is formed by a projecting porch covered by a projecting copper and glass marquee. Decoration above the entry in the form of a triangular terra cotta pediment. Access to the basement is achieved by descending seven risers. Access to the first floor is achieved by ascending a symmetrical divided stair of 13 risers with two landings. Symmetrically flanking the entry at the basement level are four one over one, double-hung windows; at the first and second floors are five one over one, double-hung windows; located directly above the entry on the second floor is a paired set of one over one, double-hung windows. Windows throughout the structure are wooden sash and box framed. A continuous, cement sill course runs under the first floor windows on the west and south facades.

The south facade on all three levels contains a paired set of three one over one windows. In the eastern half of this facade was a single, Palladian window with a semicircular brick arch with keystone. The central panel in the windows was composed of 15 lights and the side panels are composed of six lights. The semicircular light was composed of both stationary and pivoted lights. Located directly below this window is an entry to the basement. Doors in the entry are

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

paired, wooden panel solid doors. This window has been removed and replaced with a fire exit and steel framed fire escape.

The east facade contains seven equally spaced windows at each floor level. At the basement level the windows are double-hung, six over six. At the first floor the windows are paired one over one casement windows. At the second floor windows are double-hung four over four. All windows in this facade have cement sills with brick rowlock arches. The terra cotta cornice extends six feet beyond the south facade. This facade remains in original condition with the addition of wire screens across all windows.

The north facade mirrors the south facade in window placement, but window lights differ in that the interior contain six lights. In addition, all windows have brick rowlock arches. Located centrally was an exit doorway at the first floor with a wooden staircase. The staircase has since been removed as additions to this facade were constructed. The door now leads to an addition and an exit.

The continuous street frontage cornice comprises the primary decoration on the structure. Simply detailed with modillions, dentils, and raised crestings, the terra cotta cornice rests upon a brick frieze set in a perpendicular running bond pattern.

Roofing for the structure is composed of five-ply compositions and tin flashing. The roof is currently in poor condition and needs extensive repair. Two skylights were originally installed immediately west of the central ridge line for natural light on the upper two levels. These skylights have subsequently been removed and mechanical ventilation has been installed in one case.

In 1926, a reinforced concrete indoor swimming pool was constructed on the northern side of the structure. Soon after, an exercise room with a handball court, weight rooms and boxing rooms were added. No windows are in the exercise rooms, but the swimming pool contains windows on the north and west sides of that structure that are filled with glass blocks.

INTERIOR ORGANIZATION

Interior spaces in the structure are organized around a central corridor arranged parallel to the west street frontage. This corridor is reached by a corridor directly from the main entry and is double loaded on all levels. Access to all three levels is through a stairway located centrally in the building. Access to the gymnasium is through the entry corridor directly from the main entrance.

Original uses in the basement included the boiler room, locker and shower rooms,

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 3

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 4

manual training rooms and storage. First floor uses included a kindergarten, library, offices, toilets, kitchen and cooking instruction rooms, and the gymnasium. Second floor uses included six classrooms, toilets, and an indoor running track located above the gymnasium floor. The indoor running track has been removed. Current uses include pre-school and day care facilities in the basement, offices and general social activity rooms and the gymnasium on the first level; general activity rooms and offices on the second level. The swimming pool was closed in 1971 and the handball courts have been leased to a private club.

INTERIOR FINISH

The practice of using minimal decoration on the exterior is continued internally. All walls and ceilings except in the gymnasium and portions of the basement are plastered two coats. Outside brick walls are lathed on furring. Metal lath was installed in the boiler room and in all light and vent shafts.

Doors, frames, casings, baseboards, picture moldings, and wainscoating are of first grade fir with simple molded caps. The original fir finishes were shellac and varnished but have since been painted. Wainscoating of 7/8" x 4" jointed fir was installed in all corridors, classrooms, and offices. All doors were simple paneled fir except for paired sliding doors located between the kindergarten and the cooking instruction area and the main corridor. A rolling stock door was installed between two classrooms on the second floor directly above the main entry.

Floors on the first and second levels are double. Under floors are comprised of 1" x 6" fir with 7/8" x 3 1/2" fir over. Presently these floors have been covered with a variety of materials, including vinyl tile and carpeting. The upper floor in the gymnasium is composed of 1 3/16" x 2 1/4" clear maple and has recently been refinished. The basement floor is concrete, 4" thick, and is covered with 1" x 4" fir floor strips in the manual training room and by tile in the shower room.

A few of the toilets retain some original material - tile floors and tile walls and ceilings in the showers and pool area. Tile flooring is predominantly 1" hexagonal white tiles in the toilets and 1 1/2" x 3" tiles set in a basketweave pattern in the shower rooms. Wall tiles in the swimming pool are 4" x 4" white with decorative and informational signs inset in tile.

UTILITIES

Heating throughout the structure is from plain cast iron steam radiators. The original boiler is intact but is in poor condition. Original lighting was incandescent throughout, but no original fixtures remain. Present lighting is a mixture of incandescent and fluorescent. There is no integral fire protection system,

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1910	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	A.E. Doyle
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Neighborhood House lies in its outstanding humanitarian service to citizens of Portland. Since its founding, the goals of Neighborhood House have been to improve the quality of life in the area, to provide good, effective community services, and to give help where help was needed. In an early Neighborhood House publication, the members declared: "Regardless of income, there is a place for every family in Neighborhood House. We are non-sectarian and serve all races."

Over the years, the structure has been adapted to fit the needs of the area and the city. Its very flexibility has been its major attribute. Since its construction in 1910, the building has served as a settlement house, school, medical center, recreation facility Red Cross and USO center. The building has also served the needs of day camps, clubs for all ages, as well as providing programs for the physically and mentally handicapped.

The Portland Section of the National Council of Jewish Women is responsible for the establishment of Neighborhood House. When discussing the history of Neighborhood House, though, it is necessary to look further back than the present structure, to the organization of a sewing school by the National Council in 1896. This vocational school was located in the Castle Building on SW Third and Harrison Streets, which also housed a religious school and various religious activities. Shortly after the establishment of the school, a need for other manual training facilities became apparent. To meet these needs, free schools were established and in order to house these schools, the center was moved to more spacious quarters at First and Hall Streets.

May of 1902 saw the organization of the Neighborhood Guild of the Council of Jewish Women. This was in accordance with a desire of the Council and the Altar Guild of Temple Beth Israel to combine their efforts in the line of philanthropy and public service. Under the direction of these two groups, additional quarters were rented at Second and Grant Streets. These new quarters were occupied by a gymnasium. The year 1902 also marked the year that the sewing school had its first graduate, Grace Duncan.

Plans for the construction of a permanent building were also initiated in 1902 under the direction of Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Mrs. I.N. Fleischner. The plans for a new building grew as rapidly as did the services of the Council's philanthropic program.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

The 1903 program included the sewing school, cooking schools, manual training, drawing, basketry, and modeling, religious schools, library, gymnasium and meeting rooms. In 1904, a 50' x 100' lot was purchased from Dr. Holt Wilson on First between Lincoln and Hall Streets for \$2,000.00. Subscriptions were started, followed by gifts and donations from more prosperous Jewish families. Mr. Edgar Lazarus was then engaged as the architect of the first Neighborhood House.

A new constitution was drawn up and a new board was formed. The board consisted of eleven members, six from the Council, two from the Star Guild, one from the B'nai Brith Lodge, one from the Congregation of Beth Israel and one member at large. The new structure was dedicated on January 1, 1905. It was at this time that the official name became Neighborhood House.

In 1906, Portland's largest influx of European immigrants began. To adjust, Neighborhood House directed itself towards Americanization activities. But the demands on activities called for new, expanded quarters. Two lots at the north-west corner of Second and Woods Streets were purchased from Joseph Simon and Cyrus Dolph. A.E. Doyle, a prominent Portland architect who later designed the Central Library and U.S. National Bank, was selected to design the structure. Construction costs of \$40,500 was raised through private subscriptions and donations, the majority from prominent Portland Jewish families such as Meier, Mayer, Lewis and Selling. Construction began on October 3, 1909, and dedication was on December 7, 1910. Mrs. Julius Lippett, president of the Council and Mrs. Blumann, chairman of the Neighborhood House board took charge of the House's programs.

In 1911, membership monies and a \$900 contribution from the Hebrew Benevolent Society made possible the hiring of the House's first social worker, Miss Sadie Block. In 1914, the House established a neighborhood newspaper to help educate young writers and the Penny Bank came into being. That year also saw the establishment of a dispensary, staffed by a corps of physicians and the visiting Nurse Association.

In 1917, Neighborhood House served as an active center for war emergencies. Red Cross sewing units, first aid, and the selling of war stamps as well as other activities, took place. In 1920, as a result of becoming a beneficiary of what is now the Jewish Welfare Federation, the House was able to expand its recreational activities. By 1925, the City of Portland provided a gym instructor and two recreational instructors from the Park Bureau.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 29 1979

JUL 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE 3

With the closing of the dispensary in 1920, the Well Baby Clinic was established and served the entire city as a research station from which records were made available to local, state, national, and international services. Nutrition classes were also established with a pre-natal clinic and an adult clinic to replace the services previously provided by the dispensary.

In 1926, a pool was built at a cost of \$60,000, handball courts were added, a stage was constructed and later boxing, wrestling, and weightlifting rooms were added.

When the depression hit Portland in 1932, Neighborhood House, as usual, adapted itself for the situation. The Federal government had appropriated all cotton surplus and turned it into manufactured goods to be distributed by the Red Cross, under the direction of Miss T. Rose Goodman, a sewing unit was organized to make clothing items from the material handed out by the Red Cross. Women and children, sometimes numbering 400, gathered at the House twice a week and produced some 4,000 garments. Junior League paid for car fare and furnished lunches fixed at their homes. In 1936, a summer day camp was established specifically for underprivileged children at nominal fees. With the addition of a kitchen in 1938, large social events for up to 175 people were then able to be held.

During World War II, Neighborhood House again took the role of the war relief center. The sewing school was revived with the Bundles for Britain program in 1940 and the Russian War Relief of 1941. In 1942, a USO Center was established and in 1943, 3,500 Camp Adair soldiers camped across the street at Lair Hill and Dunaway Parks and were entertained by performances by groups at the House.

Since 1956, Neighborhood House, Incorporated has leased the building from the National Council of Jewish Women who relinquished their sponsorship of activities in that year.

When the northern portion of the neighborhood was destroyed by the South Auditorium Urban Renewal Project in the early 1960's, the building was forced to take on a new character. Neighborhood House became primarily a recreational facility serving the southwest. Other activities included therapy sessions for emotionally and physically handicapped children.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 3

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 4

Memberships declined until 1971, when lack of resources forced closure of the pool and private leasing of the handball courts. Neighborhood House once more than became a social agency serving Southwest Portland. The structure is presently used for meeting rooms, a cooperative pre-school and day care center, a nursery school, and after school recreation programs. Today, the Neighborhood House is principally funded by United Good Neighbors. The House remains a resource center for people of all ages and helps these people in a wide range of social needs, always as in the past, to deal with the changing needs of the community.

ARCHITECT

The design for Neighborhood House came out of the architectural firm of Doyle and Patterson with the design attributed to A.E. Doyle; considered to be the intermediate phase of Portland's architectural dynasty, Doyle became the dominate architect in Portland from 1910 to 1930. Perhaps no other city in the country has experienced a lineabe similar to Whidden and Lewis - A.E. Doyle - Pietro Belluschi, as each firm came to dominate successive 20 year periods from 1890 to 1950.

Beginning his apprenticeship with Whidden and Lewis, and working on numerous residences and projects as large as the 1905 Lewis and Clark World's Fair, Doyle assimilated the best of the classical and contemporary eastern styles and was talented enough to develop these styles into an indigenous style. His work became the cornerstone of Northwest regionalism, developed later in the work of Pietro Belluschi.

Neighborhood House was designed in the early phase of Doyle's practice, in 1910 - just three years after he had opened his practice, but the design and use of materials heralds such later works as Portland's Central Library (1913) and the Bank of California (1924), both of which are listed on the National Register. Other prominent works by Doyle include Portland's Benson Hotel, Eliot Hall at Reed College, Meier and Frank Department Store, and more than a dozen downtown office structures.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

'A. E. Doyle: He Set The Trend Of Portland Architecture In The '20's',
"Northwest Magazine, The Sunday Oregonian", February 5, 1978.

Anderson, LaNita. 'Neighborhood House: It Started as a Jewish Sewing
School', "Old Portland Today", March 15, 1975.

Gallo, Louis. "Neighborhood House History", unpublished manuscript.

Neighborhood House Plans and Specifications, City of Portland Archives,
Microfilm Collection.

Photo and Manuscript Collection, The Jewish Oral History & Archives
Project of Oregon.

Sholkoff, Mrs. Henry. National Council of Jewish Women 1898-1971.
Portland, 1971.

Vaughn and Ferriday, Editors. Space, Style and Structure. Oregon
Historical Society. Portland. 1974.



Architectural Drawing
204 W. 1st St.
Pittsburgh, Pa. & Patterson, N.C.

Neighborhood House
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

MAY 29 1979

1 of 8

DOE
JUL 10 1979

1910 Photo, Photographer unknown
Portland Historical Landmarks Comm.

Original rendering of Neighborhood
House, Doyle & Patterson, Architects



Neighborhood House
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

MAY 29 1979

2 of 8

JUL 10 1979
DOE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979
Eric Edwards

Exterior view of Neighborhood House
from the intersection of SW 2nd & Woods
Looking northeast.



Neighborhood House
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

MAY 29 1979

3 of 8

JUL 10 1979
DDE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979
Eric Edwards

Exterior view of Neighborhood House
from the intersection of SW 2nd and
Porter. Looking southeast.



MAY 29 1979

Neighborhood House

3030 SW Second Avenue

Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

4 of 8

JUL 10 1979
DOE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979

Eric Edwards

Interior view of central stairway on
first level.



Neighborhood House MAY 29 1979
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

5 of 8

JUL 10 1979 DOE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979
Eric Edwards

Interior view of basement day care
center.



Neighborhood House

MAY 29 1979

3030 SW Second Avenue

Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

6 of 8

~~JUL 10 1979~~
DOE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979

Eric Edwards

Interior view of first level meeting
room looking southwest.



Neighborhood House
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

MAY 29 1979

7 of 8

JUL 10 1979
DOE

Eric Edwards photo, 1979
Eric Edwards

Interior view of gymnasium looking
northeast.



Neighborhood House **MAY 29 1979**
3030 SW Second Avenue
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

8 of 8

Eric Edwards photo, 1979

Eric Edwards

DOE
JUL 10 1979

Interior view of swimming pool looking
north. Presently closed.